

Office of the Healthcare Advocate  
Advisory Committee Meeting  
July 19, 2011  
12:00 noon

## Meeting Summary

Attendees - (committee) Steve Karp, Bill Sweeney, Gary Collins;  
(staff) Vicki Veltri, Maureen Smith; (absent) Mark DeWaele—  
vacation, Keith Stover

Vicki Veltri reported that the final biennial budget keeps OHA as an independent office. Because of elimination of Sustinet the budget includes OHA's former Sustinet staff as staff to the new governor's Healthcare Cabinet. The Cabinet was a compromise. It was a major victory to keep OHA independent and to preserve staffing. VV is attempting to convince OPM to allow her to hire a staff attorney. There is plenty of legal work and VV cannot handle complete legal work load. OPM is still working on staff reduction plan with all agencies, so VV will keep committee informed of progress.

VV thanked the work of the committee in support of OHA remaining an independent entity.

CID is handling staff hiring and fiscal issues without any problems. CID staff on these issues is very supportive. There remains some issues re concerns of Governor's veto of rate review bill. VV sent letter to Governor outlining issues on which veto was incorrect under the ACA.

Maureen gave an update on case data statistics. OHA had a very big second quarter with over 1500 cases and slightly over \$3M in case savings. The three new CAP grant staff is adjusting to case mix and volume.

See above re legal and legislative report – OHA focused on trying to ensure meaningful rate review hearings and notice of rate increases. There was significant work by advocacy groups to ensure passage of SB 11.

OHA is thinking of holding a tenth anniversary party in the autumn and hopes the Advisory committee will attend.

Next Meeting: October 18, 2011 at 12 noon